

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 3, 2022
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM. The meeting was held at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex, 407 Charity Street, Abbeville, La.

Ms. Lynn Guillory led the Pledge of Allegiance before Mr. Rivera requested a moment of silence.

The following members were present at the meeting: Mr. Ruben Rivera, Ms. Nikki Vidos, Ms. Anne T. Falgout, Ms. Linda Vincent, Ms. Kristy Doucet-Touchet, Ms. Claire Broussard, Mr. Jacob Landry, and Ms. Anita Dupuis

The following members were absent: Mr. Dexter Callahan, Ms. Tammy Gordon, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Patrick Duhon, Mr. Aidan Broussard, and Mr. Elliot Broussard

The following guests were present: Ms. Victoria Sagrera Bourque, VEDD, Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDD, Ms. Charlene Beckett, Ms. Ali Miller, and Ms. Lynn Guillory

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

MINUTES: The minutes of the July 6, 2022, meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Ms. Nikki Vidos. Mr. Jacob Landry duly seconded the motion, and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Ruben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. The board was provided with a list of invoices and expenses totaling \$2,472.90. Ms. Anne T. Falgout motioned the board to accept the Treasurer's Report and to pay the invoices. Ms. Claire Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: Ms. Victoria S. Bourque provided the board with a review of the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in July. These included: 7 business visits, 3 business meet and greets, and working with 1 business prospect/project to meet their specific requests. She met with mayors and public officials from Gueydan, Kaplan, Abbeville, and Maurice to discuss the needs of businesses in their communities and gave presentations to the Maurice council meeting and the Abbeville Kiwanis Club. She also assisted Accadian Contractors with their company career fair and worked to develop a marketing campaign to promote parish businesses.

OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Bourque provided the board with an update on her visits with VEDD's stakeholders.

Ms. Claire Broussard gave an update on the Stakeholder Dinner, which is scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 22, 2022, in Erath. Ms. Anne T. Falgout motioned the board to allow a budget of \$250.00 for miscellaneous expenses. Mr. Jacob Landry duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Shari Cormier informed the board that VEDD has submitted a progress report, cost report and a request for reimbursement in the amount of \$7,686.70 for the EDA grant. She noted that the office would be providing reports quarterly going forward. She asked the board to allow the office to open a dedicated bank account, if needed, to receive the grant funds. Ms. Anita Dupuis motioned the board to allow the VEDD office to open an account at Vermilion Bank if it is a requirement for the EDA grant. Ms. Claire Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Rivera addressed the need to change VEDA's meeting date and time because the Vermilion Parish Police Jury meetings are now being held at the same time and share a board member who cannot attend the VEDD meetings. After a general discussion the Ms. Anne T. Falgout

motioned the board to change the meeting time from 6:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Ms. Nikki Vidos duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. Any changes in the date of the meetings will be discussed at the September meeting.

Ms. Bourque presented the board with information regarding One Acadiana's 2022 Leadership Exchange trip to Pensacola, FL on September 14, 2022. She noted that AEDC would pay all cost of her trip. Ms. Anne T. Falgout motioned the board to allow Ms. Bourque to take part in the Leadership Exchange trip. Mr. Jacob Landry duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Cormier presented the board with the 2022 holiday schedules for the Louisiana Clerk of Court, the federal government, and the State of Louisiana. She noted that the VEDA office preferred the state holiday schedule and asked that they be allowed to choose 10 of the 12 holidays listed. Ms. Nikki Vidos motioned the board to have VEDD adopt the full Louisiana State Holiday Schedule (12 days) for the organization. Ms. Anita Dupuis duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried. Mr. Rivera noted that the adoption of this holiday schedule should be addressed on Ms. Bourque's employment agreement.

Mr. Rivera informed the board that LIDEA's Basic Economic Development Course will not be held until early in 2023. He noted that LIDEA's two upcoming courses, Real Estate Development and Re-Use and the Marketing and Attraction, are both requirements for the Louisiana Economic Developer certification. Ms. Bourque noted that both Slemco and Entergy have offered to pay the cost of registration for the classes. Ms. Anne T. Falgout motioned the board to allow Ms. Bourque to attend both the Real Estate Development and Re-Use and the Marketing and Attraction classes offered by LIDEA with a budget not to exceed \$500.00 for each class. Ms. Claire Broussard duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Bourque presented the board with information on LIDEA's Fall Conference to be held in New Orleans on September 13, 2022. She noted that the conference fee was paid in 2020 and has been carried over because of COVID. She also noted that she would be driving there the morning of the event and would not require an overnight stay. No motion was needed for Ms. Bourque to attend.

Ms. Nikki Vidos addressed the board about Abbeville's LDRC Economic Development Committee. She motioned the board to allow Ms. Bourque to replace Ms. Anne T. Falgout on the LDRC committee. Ms. Anne T. Falgout duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Bourque presented the board with pricing for communication management program subscriptions. This will help with the scheduling of social media post. Ms. Anne T. Falgout motioned the board to allow for a budget of \$150.00 per year for the communication management program of Ms. Bourque's choice. Ms. Nikki Vidos duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

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

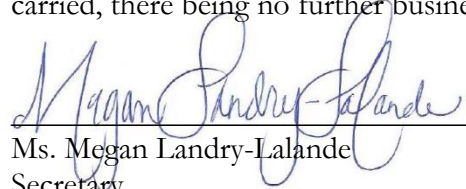
Ms. Nikki Vidos informed the board that discussions will continue to be held regarding funding.

Mr. Rivera informed the board that the Transition Committee is scheduled to be phased out on September 1, 2022. He noted that he saw no need to extend the committee beyond the 3 months after Ms. Bourque's employment that it was originally created to cover.

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

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the District will be at 5:30pm on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex.

ADJOURN: Upon motion by Ms. Anita Dupuis, duly seconded by Ms. Nikki Vidos and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Megan Landry-Lalande". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name across the page.

Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande
Secretary