

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 25, 2024  
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING

President Patrick Duhon called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM. The meeting was held at the Vermilion Parish Government Office Complex, 407 Charity Street, Abbeville, La.

Mr. Ben Rivera led the Pledge of Allegiance before Mr. Duhon requested a moment of silence.

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

The following members were absent: Mr. Elliot Broussard, Ms. Anita Dupuis, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande and Mr. Jacob Landry

The following guests were present: Ms. Shari Cormier, VEDA, and Ms. Adalynn Touchet

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

MINUTES: The minutes of the August 14, 2024, meeting were approved as written on a motion made by Mr. Ben Rivera. Ms. Nikki Vidos duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms. Nikki Vidos presented the Treasurer's Report. The board was provided with a list of invoices and expenses totaling \$561.82. Mr. Joshua Anderson motioned the board to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the invoices. Ms. Kristin Vincent duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Ms. Shari Cormier presented the board with a report showing one completed request for information, the initial contact with government agencies regarding records retention and gathering information related to the closing of the office. Mr. Patrick Duhon read the report to the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mr. Richard Guilbeaux informed the board of the difficulties he has had getting information from the state regarding closing the organization. He noted that he will look into taking the matter to the legislature. He also noted that the office has contacted the Louisiana Ethics Department with questions about board meetings and quorums needed if no business is being conducted. Ms. Vidos also noted that Ms. Cormier is currently working on inventory and archiving all VEDD's files and Ms. Falgout is working with One Acadiana to determine what role they will play with our community. Ms. Vidos informed the board that the Transition Committee would like to hold a stakeholder event in order to thank them for their support and to interduce them to the organizations that will be supporting Vermilion Parish in VEDD's absence. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux asked that this be put on the agenda for the October meeting.

Ms. Claire Broussard entered the meeting.

Ms. Claire Broussard gave the update for the Workforce Development Committee. She noted Lauren Trahan with the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Lonnie Richard with the Vermilion Parish School Board attended the Work Ready Communities Boot Camp in Lacombe, LA on August 28-29, 2024. She also noted that the committee is still working to schedule a presentation of the workforce program to Abbeville's Rotary Club.

Mr. Ben Rivera updated the board on the Hometown Revitalization Program Committee. He noted that the Erath project has been approved to move forward with the application process.

Ms. Anne Falgout gave the update for the Communications and Promotions Committee. She noted that they reached out to One Acadiana to ask for support for Vermilion Parish. She noted that they are waiting for One Acadiana to supply information and contacts before developing a plan to share that with the parish through newsletters and social media.

There was no update from the Business and Industry Development Committee.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Ms. Anne Falgout informed the board that the memorandum of understanding (MOU) that was approved at the last meeting allows VEDD to appoint a member to the One Acadiana board. Mr. Ben Rivera nominated Ms. Nikki Vidos for the board position. Ms. Anne Falgout duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Duhon reminded the board that the annual election of officers would be held in October. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to postpone the October elections until the December meeting if the current officers agree to continue their service. Mr. Ben Rivera duly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

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

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held at 5:30pm on Wednesday, October 9, 2024.

ADJOURN: Upon motion by Ms. Kristin Vincent, duly seconded by Ms. Kristy Doucet-Touchet and unanimously carried, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Ms. Anne T. Falgout  
Secretary