

MINUTES OF THE MAY 2, 2016
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

President Ruben Rivera called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. 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. Pat Rost with the following members present:

Mr. Ruben Rivera, Ms. Pat Rost, Mr. Dane Hebert, Mr. Kirk Frith, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Mr. Jacob Landry, Mr. Paul Bourgeois and Ms. Gale Smith

The following members were absent:

Ms. Cynthia Dudley, Mr. Kevin Sagrera, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Francis Plaisance, Mr. Jason Picard, Mr. Darin Desormeaux and Ms. Sarah Trahan

The following guests were present:

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

MINUTES

The minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting were approved by a motion made by Mr. Paul Bourgeois, duly seconded by Mr. Kirk Frith and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout gave the Treasurer's Report. She reviewed the May invoices and expenses, totaling \$869.27. Upon motion by Mr. Dane Hebert, duly seconded by Mr. Carlton Campbell and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout updated the board on the job fair. She reviewed the employer survey totals and noted that the responses were overwhelmingly positive. The board asked that Ms. Falgout contact all of the employers to determine how many had hired employees from the job fair.

In an effort to clarify the absenteeism policy that was voted on at the last meeting. Mr. Ruben Rivera asked the board for their input on the wording of the letters to be sent to the appointing authority if a board member fails to meet the policy requirements. Mr. Kirk Frith motioned the board to draft two letters. The first letter would only advise the appointing authority that the commissioner had violated the absentee policy, without any recommendations. The second letter, to be sent after

continued absences, would ask the appointing authority to consider replacing the board member. Mr. Paul Bourgeois seconded the motion, and it was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ben Rivera informed the board of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire that is required to be completed for the state financial audit. This form requires the signature of the executive committee. Mr. Carlton Campbell motioned the board to allow the executive committee to complete and sign the form. Mr. Paul Bourgeois seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that she has been asked by the Acadiana Planning Commission to appoint a representative to serve on the Transit Study Coordinating Team. She asked the board members for suggestions. Mr. Kirk Frith motioned the board to have Ms. Falgout follow up with the persons discussed. The motion also included that Ms. Falgout draft a letter to the Acadiana Planning Commission to use to provide the appointee's name should someone accept. Mr. Paul Bourgeois seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she had received a letter from the Community Foundation of Acadiana asking for a donation to fund the I-49 Economic Impact Study. The board made no move on this matter.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that the billboard contract would expire on 6/26/2016. She asked the board for suggestions as to any changes they would like to make. The board will vote on any changes at the next meeting.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she would be hosting an Acadiana Woman's Network event on May 12, 2016. She asked the board for funds to supply appetizers for the woman who attend. Mr. Kirk Frith motioned the board to allow a budget of up to \$250.00 for appetizers for the event. Ms. Pat Rost seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she would like create a brand called Vermilion at Work. This brand would be an umbrella for many things, including future job fairs. It would also be used to open communications with businesses, help them connect with job seekers, and promote programs available to them. She also informed the board that the initial cost (website domain name, branding design, printing and postage) will be covered by the remaining funds from the job fair, but any future cost would need to be paid by VEDD. Mr. Kirk Frith motioned the board to allow for the initial set-up, but wants revisit any future cost as needed. Mr. Paul Bourgeois seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that the Branding Agribusiness Committee will meet on May 3, 2016. She also provided the board members with the minutes from the Existing Business Committee meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District will be held on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Kirk Frith, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Pat Rost
Secretary