

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 2017
VERMILION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING

President Pat Rost 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 Ms. Pat Rost.

Ms. Pat Rost requested a moment of silence.

A roll call was done by Ms. Shari Cormier, with the following members present:

Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, Mr. Dane Hebert, Mr. Aidan Broussard, Ms. Pat Rost, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Nash Patel, Ms. Sarah Trahan, Mr. Patrick Duhon, and Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande

The following members were absent:

Mr. Kirk Frith, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Mr. Jacob Landry, Mr. Paul Bourgeois, Mr. Jason Picard, and Ms. Gale Smith

The following guests were present:

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

MINUTES

The minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting were approved on a motion made by Mr. Ben Rivera, duly seconded by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, and unanimously carried by the board.

Mr. Aidan Broussard entered the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Ben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the invoices and expenses, totaling \$1,123.38. Upon motion by Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, duly seconded by Mr. Dane Hebert and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout presented the board with updated information regarding the Rural Business Development Grant. She stated that we do qualify to apply for the grant, but the LSU Ag Center is also considering applying and it would not be likely that we would both receive the grant. She asked the board if they wanted to compete with the LSU Ag center for this grant or wait until 2018 to apply. The board requested that Ms. Falgout look into prices for grant writers and continue talks with the LSU Ag Center, as well as the Vermilion Parish Police Jury, to determine if they plan to apply.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she had a meeting with Townsquare Media and they will run the first radio ads on ESPN, KPEL and 97.3 in April to promote our job fair. She stated that she would like to share the ads for the remaining months with Vermilion Parish businesses, at a reduced rate, as part of our Shop Local Program. She asked the board's permission to contact businesses about the program. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to contact businesses about the radio ads. Mr. Ben Rivera seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that the Visual Composer program that came with our website needs to be updated. The cost of the program is a one-time charge of \$34.00. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux stated that that would be part of normal business and does not require a vote.

Mr. Dane Hebert left the meeting.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that she had received an invoice from Acadiana Regional Alliance to renew her membership. She stated that the cost of renewal had risen to \$100.00. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux motioned the board to allow the payment of the renewal fee. Mr. Ben Rivera seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Falgout presented to the board information regarding the upcoming LIDEA Statewide Economic Development Summit to be held on April 11, 2017 in Baton Rouge, LA. She stated that the cost for her to attend the summit would be \$162.00. Mr. Patrick Duhon motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to attend. Ms. Sarah Trahan seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Falgout presented the board with information about the Vermilion Parish Job Fair, to be held on April 19, 2017. This included the dates, times and locations of the Employer Breakfast, the Job Seeker Workshop and the Job Fair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Pat Rost reported to the board that she had added a few new members to the committees and was in the process of contacting everyone by e-mail, with the intention of asking for their input and setting goals. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux suggested monthly reports be given for each committee.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout updated the board on 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 3, 2017 at 5:00 PM. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Sarah Trahan, duly seconded by Mr. Ben Rivera and unanimously carried, there being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Ms. Gale Smith
Secretary