

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 5, 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. Gale Smith, with the following members present:

Ms. Pat Rost, Mr. Ruben Rivera, Mr. Dane Hebert, Mr. Jason Picard, Mr. Patrick Duhon, Ms. Megan Landry-Lalande, and Ms. Sarah Trahan, Mr. Jacob Landry, Ms. Gale Smith, Mr. Richard Guilbeaux, and Mr. Kirk Frith

The following members were absent:

Mr. Aidan Broussard, Mr. Carlton Campbell, Mr. Paul Bourgeois, and Mr. Nash Patel

The following guests were present:

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

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 1, 2017 meeting were approved on a motion made by Ms. Megan Lalande, duly seconded by Mr. Jason Picard, and unanimously carried by the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Ben Rivera gave the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the invoices and expenses, totaling \$686.89. Upon motion by Mr. Kirk Frith, duly seconded by Ms. Gale Smith and unanimously carried, these invoices were approved for payment.

Mr. Patrick Duhon entered the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Anne T. Falgout informed the board that VEDD's application for the Rural Business Development Grant was submitted on May 15, 2017. She stated that of the possible 240 points, VEDD qualified for 160 points. She also stated that she had not yet heard from USDA about the outcome of the grant award.

Ms. Falgout informed the board that the stakeholder invoices were completed and that the board members will be contacted by Ms. Shari Cormier to see if appointments are needed to meet with their supporting authorities.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Falgout informed the board of an opportunity to attend LIDEA's Real Estate Development and Reuse training course in Hammond, LA. The course registration, hotel and travel cost would be \$435.86 - \$458.66, depending hotel availability. Mr. Jason Picard motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to attend the training course. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jacob Landry and unanimously carried.

Ms. Falgout presented the board with the final financial results from the job fair, which was held in April. She stated that she and the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce would like to use the excess funds to purchase a projector and screen to be used by both organizations. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux suggested that these funds be used for another job fair. Ms. Falgout will look into the possibilities of hosting another job fair.

Ms. Falgout introduced a new program that would offer discounted radio and newspaper advertising, as well as highlight businesses with interviews and human-interest stories printed in the Abbeville Meridional. The Keep It Local program partners with the Vermilion Chamber of Commerce, the Vermilion Tourism Commission, the Abbeville Meridional and the local business community to expand upon the shop local idea and include service related businesses, local restaurants and activities within the parish. She asked the board to allow for the purchase of postcards and postage in the amount of \$150.00 to be sent to businesses in Vermilion Parish. Mr. Dane Hebert motioned the board to allow Ms. Falgout to purchase the postcards and postage. Mr. Patrick Duhon seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried. Ms. Falgout also ask the board to consider the redesign of VEDD's brochures. She stated that since we were running low, it would be a good time make changes and she would like to add content that describes the programs the organization offers. She stated that the estimated total for design cost and printing would be between \$470.00 and \$640.00. Mr. Patrick Duhon motioned the board to allow for the design and printing of the new brochures. Mr. Kirk Frith seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

Ms. Pat Rost informed the board that the annual elections of officers would be held at the July Meeting. She asked that everyone attend the meeting. Mr. Ben Rivera reminded the board that several of the board members terms will end in 2018. It was noted that there was no mention of extending the terms of board members in the organization's by-laws and that it would be a good time to develop a policy to allow those who would like to remain on the board to do so, without another 4-year commitment. Mr. Richard Guilbeaux asked that this be put on the agenda for the July meeting. He also suggested possibly postponing the election of officers until the September meeting, because of scheduled vacations during the summer months.

Mr. Dane Hebert and Mr. Jason Picard left the meeting to attend the Vermilion Parish Police Jury meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Pat Rost noted that Ms. Falgout included a list of businesses she has visited or plans to visit in the month of June.

Ms. Rost also informed the board that Mr. Corey Lege has agreed to serve as chairman of the Advanced Manufacturing Committee.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Anne T. Falgout provided the board with a written report detailing the accomplishments made by the VEDD office in the month of May.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the District is scheduled for Monday, July 17, 2017 at 5:00 PM. in the Judge's Library/Conference Room.

ADJOURN

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

Ms. Gale Smith
Secretary